

AUG 04 2004

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/977,405
Filing Date October 16, 2001
First Named Inventor Takashi HOSOTANI, et al.
Group Art Unit 3617
Examiner Name Jules, Frantz F.
Attorney Docket Number 50340-110

RCE
JFW

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/USB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 6, 2004
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
iii. ☐ Other _____
b. ☐ Enclosed
i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
iv. ☐ Other

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action of the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 500417.
i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) \$770.00
ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) \$310.00
iii. ☐ Other (additional claims, etc.)
b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$____ enclosed
c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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01 FC:1801 770.00 DA

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Bernard P. Codd	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,429
Signature	<i>Bernard P. Codd</i>	Date	August 4, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name(Print/Type)		Date	
Signature			